If you believe that old proverb, "The love of money is the root of all evil," then your Municipal Railway must confess to the harboring of hundreds of dyed-in-the-wool sinners. They include operators, schedule makers, traffic checkers, and even the General Manager.

But much of their love of money is concerned with nickels and dimes utilized as EXACT CHANGE dropped into fareboxes by patrons as they board buses, streetcars and trolley coaches.

Correct Change Speeds Service

It has been estimated that if EVERY ONE of our more than 650,000 average daily passengers had EXACT FARES when they boarded Muni vehicles, more than 200 hours a day could be saved and passed on to YOU, our patrons, in faster service, more uniform scheduling and reduced operating costs.

That more than 200 hours daily saving could be accumulated by an average of only two minutes on each of the approximately 7,500 trips scheduled daily on your Muni's 61 lines. And, of course, it is conceivable that on some trips the running time saved could be more than two minutes, thus increasing the system-wide aggregate time saved.

Doesn't giving it a trial seem worthwhile?

Currency Change

We recognize that this halcyon state of affairs probably never will be attained, but meanwhile we earnestly solicit your cooperation in trying to have the exact change in hand when boarding, whenever it is possible to do so.

It is realized, however, that sometimes passengers may not have the exact change and on these occasions OPERATORS ARE REQUIRED TO MAKE CHANGE PROMPTLY AND CHEERFULLY within reasonable limitations.

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A "reasonable limitation" is deemed to be $5.00, although normally cooperation of patrons in not tendering currency larger than $1.00 is desirable – for obvious reasons.

Your Muni operators are instructed to avoid giving change for $5.00 all in coins, or, for instance, returning 20 nickels in change for a $1.00 – unless under unusual circumstances, that is all that is available. When such is the case, the operator should courteously explain the reason.

In rare instances when a number of patrons have required change for a $5.00 bill in order to pay their fare, the operator just may not have enough change for the next one. It is within Muni regulations for operators then to courteously request the individual to enter a nearby place of business to obtain change – and it may not be practicable to delay other passengers by delaying the streetcar or coach while this is done. Operators are directed to telephone for an additional supply of change, when needed, so as to keep inconveniences to patrons in change-making at a minimum.

Errors In Making Change

Your Municipal Railway carries an average of more than 650,000 daily passengers and reports pertaining to "change misunderstanding" number only two or three a day. Isn't this a fairly good record?

Human error is possible, however, and occasionally operators do make mistakes. Actually there is only one appropriate time and place to check for possible error in receipt of change – in the operator's presence and before leaving the vicinity of the farebox.

Any error which inadvertently has occurred can be more readily adjusted by the operator at that time.

You Can Assist In Expediting Service

By Having Exact Fare Ready In Your Hand When
Boarding (Rather Than In Your Purse, or Pocket),
Or, If You do Require Change – By Permitting
Those With Exact Change to Board First.

Four-Time Runners Up Finally Win

Both Ulick Burke (top) an operator on the No. 45 line and Harold Goo (bottom) of the No. 41 Union-Howard line, have been runners up for "Muni Man" four times.

In October, Burke became the 147th operator to win this honor and in November, Goo captured first prize. Both men are married. Burke heads a lively household of five children and Goo and his wife, Bernice, have young David, age six, who is quite a handful.

Both operators are also National Safety Council "Safe Driving Award" winners; Burke with seven and Goo with six.

"Old Timers" Capture December-January Muni Man

Two veterans of the Municipal Railway, Herbert Blanchard of the No. 22-Fillmore line who has been with the system since 1947 and Silvio Chiosso, a No. 19-Polk line driver with 26 years experience behind the wheel, were December 1963 and January 1964 winners.

Blanchard has collected eight Safe Driving Awards and is a familiar figure to his regular riders on the evening runs of the No. 22 line. Chiosso is a winner of three Safe Driving Awards and knows many of his shopping customers on the No. 19 line by their first names.

We're especially proud of one of our operators who has been with the Muni three years and drives a bus on the No. 15 line.

He is Cesar Cuadra, 39, of 133 Rice Street, who fought his way through flames to pull a critically injured motorist from a furiously burning pick-up truck on Bayshore Boulevard recently.

The truck, which careened out of control about 2:00 in the morning, pinned the driver, Jerome Smith, in the cab with both legs broken. Cuadra jumped from his bus, raced through the flames and dragged Smith to safety, smothering the motorist's burning clothes with his own hands.

Cuadra, who luckily was not injured, is married, the father of three children – and something of a hero to a great many people, including Mrs. Smith.

His brave act was noted in a special Public Utilities Commission resolution presented to him recently by Railway General Manager Vernon W. Anderson on behalf of Commission members.

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Steinhart Aquarium – Mecca for "Fish Lookers"

Steinhart Aquarium, of the California Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park, has become, since its fairly recent and complete renovation, a haven for millions of "fish lookers."

Here, in 178 beautifully arranged display tanks, are fish from every corner of the world. Large and small, brilliantly colored, strange, exotic, unusual – over 10,000 specimens may be viewed in a wide variety of settings, each designed to best present its finny inhabitant.

For instance, there are tidepool tanks where may be seen colorful, flowerlike invertebrates, giant alligator gars, deadly piranhas, slithering octopi, silversides by the hundreds, turtles by the dozens, blind cave fish and Moorish idols – to mention but a few.

In the swamp area of the aquarium, mean-looking, 12-foot alligators contemplate the world with an unnerving stare and in a specially built 63,000 gallon tank, two playful dolphins happily entertain visitors.

Steinhart Aquarium is but one part of the California Academy of Sciences whose hundreds of displays open the visitor's world to the wonders of natural history. The Academy is open every day of the year from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and admission is free to all.

Best way to reach the Aquarium is to use the Municipal Railway's convenient and inexpensive transit lines. The crosstown No. 10-Monterey coach, which begins at Cortland and Bayshore and terminates at 12th Avenue and California, offers service to the Aquarium and connects with 21 other transit lines including all streetcars and the Nos. 1-California, 2-Clement, 5-McAllister, 6-Masonic, 12-Mission-Ocean, 14-Mission, 25-Bryant, 26-Valencia, 31-Balboa, 38-Geary, 66-Quintara, 71-Haight-Noriega and 72-Haight-Sunset.

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